

Accomplishments Related to the Federal Executive Board's Goals:

Advance the Administration's Goals and Initiatives

President's Management Agenda:

Human Capital

One Board meeting featured remarks by John Gartland, U. S. Office of Personnel Management, Director of Congressional Relations, on recent legislation impacting the federal workforce.

Expanding Electronic Government

One Board meeting featured remarks by Chris Niedermayer, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Associate Chief Information Officer eGovernment, on the evolution of expanding electronic government. This was Mr. Niedermayer's second presentation to the Board allowing for continuous insight on how departments are implementing electronic processes to support their mission.

Homeland Security:

The Gateway COOP Working Group was chartered in March 2005.

Approximately forty agencies from both Missouri and Illinois participate including several from the 8th District Federal Courts. The Working Group meets monthly and each meeting includes a guest speaker. Speakers have represented state and local emergency planning agencies, responders to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Missouri earthquake management agency, and the recently appointed Protective Security Advisor in the Department of Homeland Security. FEMA personnel conducted a three-day training course for COOP managers in St. Louis. (FEMA does not have a St. Louis office. All staff support is provided through Kansas City. The Kansas City staff plans and attend the monthly meetings.) All COOP agendas and briefings are posted on the Board's website.

Two Board meetings included program sessions featuring emergency planning issues. FEMA staff conducted an overview of COOP and discussed implementation of a COOP Working Group in St. Louis. The second program focused on counter-intelligence with two security specialists presenting—one from the FBI and the other from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

Gateway Combined Federal Campaign:

Financial results—the pledge amount for the 2005 campaign is well over the \$3 million goal. Since 2001 the campaign has increased giving by 21% and the administrative fundraising cost has dropped almost three percent from approximately 9.3% to approximately 6.5%. The reduction in the cost figure is very significant since the LFCC set a specific goal to reach a 6% administrative-fundraising ratio.

The Local Federal Coordinating Committee was separated from Board control with a revised charter and the subsequent election of a chair who is not a Board member. In addition, the full complement of positions was filled with representation secured from a Congressional office.

OPM's Office of CFC Operations asked the Gateway Campaign to participate in a pilot of a two-campaign contract with the Principal Combined Fund Organization. Gateway agreed and as a result restructured the Scope of Work document to cover a two-campaign period.

The Board Executive Director participated as a session leader and a panelist on innovation in both of the CFC regional workshops. The Executive Director is also a member of the National CFC Advisory Council.

Create and Advance Local Initiatives

Diversity Awareness:

Gateway to Diversity, a consolidated four-hour education program, was presented morning and afternoon on a single day. The split day was designed at the request of Board members who said that they could send many more employees to a half-day program than they could for a full day. The goal of the training was to provide insights on key issues related to creating and maintaining a diverse federal workforce. The event replaced the legacy special emphasis months' programs. The total attendance was over 370 individuals representing 43 federal agencies. (Under the legacy model the largest number of agencies represented was 20.) The number of senior ranking individuals was significantly larger than at any other event of this type. Board members were so satisfied with the results that they decided to make it an annual event.

The Executive Director continues to serve on the Diversity Awareness Partnership Governing Board. The Diversity Awareness Partnership is a not-for-profit, volunteer driven organization. Members of the Board's Disability Awareness Council were the single source of volunteers assembling tool kits for 600 elementary schools. The tool kits are designed to help children better understand and accommodate classmates with both physical and mental disabilities.

Employment Issues:

The Federal Women's' Program Council coordinated a workshop on the Federal Employee Compensation Act with the U. S. Department of Labor, Office of Worker Compensation, in Kansas City. The training was provided at no cost. About forty individuals from 18 different federal agencies attended the half-day training class.

The Hispanic Employment Program Council participated in two job fairs to raise awareness of local federal jobs targeted for bilingual applicants.

Three agencies assisted the Washington University Career Center conduct mock job interviews for students interested in public service careers. The Executive Director assembled material for ten federal agencies and represented all of them at a Washington University Career Fair targeted for careers in public service. Washington University is a highly respected academic, research institution, and these efforts to highlight careers in public service are relatively new.

Excellence in Government:

The annual Excellence in Government Awards generated individual and team nominations from 46 agencies the largest number of participating agencies in a five-year span. "America At Its Best" awards were presented to a group of 23 individuals and teams. Over 350 people attended the awards breakfast highlighted by remarks from Charles Dooley, St. Louis County Executive.

Volunteerism:

The Board continued its partnership with the St. Louis RAMS, the St. Louis Sports Commission, and Fair

St. Louis. Federal employees volunteered to assist with many different community events most notably the NCAA's Men's Final Four. During Fair St. Louis, federal volunteers were assigned to security checkpoints. The Fair's volunteer coordinator personally attended a Board meeting to thank the federal volunteers. Apparently other individuals assigned to those positions failed to show for their assignments, so the federal volunteers worked additional shifts in very hot conditions. The Fair is an outdoor event in July.

The RAMS continued to coordinate the annual Veteran's Salute game with the Board, and invited 100 uniformed members of the military to attend the game and participate in the half-time presentation. The RAMS' Director of Community Outreach has noted that working with the Board allows the RAMS to reach a wide range of military organizations, which is important to their organization.

The RAMS enlisted the Executive Director's help in August 2005 to distribute almost 2000 tickets to an exhibition game honoring active military, Guard and Reserve personnel and family members who had been or would be deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq.

Provide Information, Referrals and Guidance for Intergovernmental and Community Outreach

Continued to improve and update web site for value added dissemination of information and contacts.

Provided session note takers for White House Conference on Conservation held in St. Louis. Peggy O'Dell, Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Superintendent of the Gateway Arch, was the conference coordinator. Ms. O'Dell is a member of the Board.

Continue to provide special assistance to a federal employee displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Individual has six children, three of whom have muscular dystrophy. He is a St. Louis native. His house was destroyed by the hurricane. He wants to make St. Luis his permanent home. He has returned to his job in Mississippi and his family has remained in St. Louis. Federal employment is critical because of his children's medical needs.

Assisted the Fox Sports Midwest coordinate with the Armed Forces telecom to broadcast a St. Louis Cardinals v Boston Red Socks game to military personnel stationed in Tikrit, Iraq. The broadcast was highly successful, and included shots

of the fans in Tikrit on the scoreboard in Busch Stadium. A number of the fans in Tikrit are from the St. Louis area, so their families were able to see them.

Provided information on CORO fellowships in public service to all Board member agencies and other federal agencies in the area. Encouraged Board members to consider budgeting for the potential placement of a CORO fellow in their agencies.

Provided information on U. S. Postal Management Intern openings to all federal employees in the metropolitan area.

Coordinated a presentation to the Board by the CIA's Midwest Recruiter, and a follow on information workshop for federal employees on job opportunities with the CIA. About 30 individuals attended the workshop. The recruiter was very satisfied with the turnout.

Assisted a Presidential Management Fellow with a search for placement in St. Louis. The fellow is a law student and she was seeking placement with an agency that would draw on her legal education. Several agencies expressed interest, but none had funding to pay for the position. The Fellow returned to DC and is with the Department of Labor.

Assisted the Army Corps of Engineers recruit military and federal civilian employees for assignments in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Assisted U.S. Department of Treasury, FedSource, and Department of Army, Logistics Support Service Office advertise job openings.

Assisted FAA with job referrals and placement assistance for employees impacted by downsizing.

Supported the annual Small Business Week Committee by encouraging federal agencies to participate in the full range of events held during Small Business Week.

Greater St. Louis Federal Executive Board
Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report
Charlie Meyer, Chair

Executive Summary

Strength Through Partnerships was the theme for the Greater St. Louis Board's Fiscal Year 05 Strategic Plan. The selection of this theme signaled the Board's view that the membership had both formal and informal relationships that would support collaborative efforts. The five-year strategic plan concluded in 2005, and a number of the goals were met. Some of the changes that occurred in those five years are noted in the summary.

Five of the most valued accomplishments of the year in the strategic plan framework are:

Training and Promoting Excellence:

Gateway to Diversity--370 participants, many ranking officials from 43 agencies attended. First time venture proved so successful the Board voted to make an annual event.

Community Service/Information:

Gateway Combined Federal Campaign was again the main initiative for community service. The Local Federal Coordinating Committee and new Principal Combined Fund Organization have created a solid working relationship. The five-year-old leadership succession plan has resulted in continuity of agency engagement and a strong volunteer network. Results include five years of increasing pledge amounts, and strategic decisions on managing the cost of the campaign.

Member Services:

Membership in the Board has changed in the 44 years of operations. Changes in the federal structure impact the Board on almost an annual basis. Since 2001 the number of members has been fairly consistent hovering around 80. Some more major change will occur with the implementation of the 2005 BRAC. The "invisible" change is the flow of federal employees into private sector contract positions. The Greater St. Louis area will continue to experience this shift with several Department of Defense agencies moving more and more to contract personnel. That movement will impact both Board programming and the Combined Federal Campaign. One positive impact for the area is the movement of a large Army command to Scott Air Force Base.

New Member Orientation—In five years, 55 of the agency representatives changed, and in the case of the Department of Defense agencies, some of those representatives changed three times. Nineteen new representatives joined the Board during the fiscal year. The Board now has 82 members so in one 12-month period there was about a 23% change in representation. The turnover is consistent, so the challenge to forge leadership reserves is and corporate knowledge is very significant.

New Members—The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Protective Service and the U. S. Postal Service, Office of Inspector General petitioned the Board for member status. Both were approved. A former employee who moved

into a new position and was a Board member influenced postal Inspector General. That individual encouraged the ranking person with Postal Inspector General to join the Board because of the value he saw in the organization.

Inactive Member Outreach—Eight member agencies did not attend or engage in most Board activities from 2001 to 2002. Visits were made to their offices to explain the Board and to request their participation. Of those visited two became active. Many of the others suggested that they have no time or interest in participating. The positive news is that almost all participate in the Combined Federal Campaign, and have staff who volunteers for various Board activities.

Member Services-

Focus the Meeting--Represents the high priority assigned to ensuring that the quarterly Board meetings provide substantive information and instruction for agency heads and their senior staff. At the Board meeting in March 2001, 29 members/alternates, and 5 guests attended. Attendance for meetings in 2005 averaged 38 members/alternates and 14 guests.